

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORKFORCE INVESTMENT ACT

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TO: WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY

SUBJECT: DISLOCATED WORKER FUND AVAILABILITY

This information bulletin provides Local Workforce Investment Areas (LWIA) with an update regarding the status of the Workforce Investment Act (WIA) dislocated worker 25 percent funds. Funding requests for the Program Year 2002-03 have been significantly higher than in past years and have resulted in some restrictions in our ability to distribute these funds. There are very limited funds available in the dislocated worker 25 percent account as of the end of October 2002. There are several projects seeking funding. The second authorization of rapid response funding is also being finalized for release. It is imperative that management strategies are implemented immediately to ensure the availability of funds for future needs. We are proactively reviewing past funding commitments on an ongoing basis to ensure maximum fund utilization and availability. Due to the dynamic nature of the 25 percent special projects, funding needs change often. The WIA regional advisors have been asked to review each 25 percent project for fund availability and projected usage. If it appears that past funding commitments can be adjusted, the regional advisors will work with the involved parties to determine actual needs and make changes to funding levels as appropriate.

Additionally, assistance will be sought through applications to the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL) National Emergency Grant (NEG) for worker dislocations. Eligible applicants for NEG funding include states, local boards, Native American tribes and tribal organizations, and entities determined eligible by the Governor [WIA 173(c)(1)(B)].

The LWIAs may develop NEG applications with assistance from the State, and the State will submit approved applications to DOL on behalf of the Governor as the applicant. We suggest, as the need arises, that LWIAs work closely with their assigned regional advisor who can provide in-depth technical assistance in the development of applications.

If you have any questions, please contact your [Regional Advisor](#) at (916) 653-6347.

/S/ BOB HERMSMEIER
Acting Chief
Workforce Investment Division